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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**  
**Form PTO/SB/08a**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Application Number	Complete if Known
10/686,907	Confirmation No. 7509
Filing Date	October 17, 2003
First Named Inventor	Piero DEL SOLDATO et al.
Art Unit	1617
Examiner Name	Yong SOO CHONG
Attorney Docket Number	026220-00039

Sheet 1 of 2

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- 5,859,053 A	01-12-1999	Eva Lesur et al.	
		US- 5,661,426 A	01-19-1999	Piero Del Soldato et al.	
		US- 6,040,341 A	03-21-2000	Piero Del Soldato et al.	
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>3</sup>
		Country Code <sup>4</sup> Number <sup>5</sup> Kind Code <sup>6</sup> (if known)				
		EP 0 722 434 B1	07-29-1998	NICOX S.A.		X
		EP 0 738 706 A1	10-23-1996	PRODES, S.A.		X
		WO 98/09948 A2	03-12-1998	NICOX S.A.		X
		WO 00/51988 A1	09-08-2000	NICOX S.A.		X
		WO 00/61537 A2	10-19-2000	NICOX S.A.		X
		WO 01/12584 A2	02-22-2001	NICOX S.A.		X

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached. AB indicates that only an English language abstract is attached.

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Sheet	2	of	2
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